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October 27, 1969

Harold Weisberg
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Dear Harold,

Your mailings of October 7(?), 9, 13 (2), 16, and 21 received.

You and Gary should have the Finck and Frazier testimony by now. They did a pretty good job on Finck, but in terms of getting information (as opposed to convincing a jury) it could have been a lot better. I don't know of any other testimony I would particularly want. Much of it wouldn't be worth even 3¢ a page. I would like to see an entire transcript out of N.O. and available to all of us.

Emory Brown and I have exchanged letters. Copy enclosed.

Does Bud agree with you that there are notes missing from CE 397? You have never been able to convince me. Even if that is the most reasonable interpretation of Humes' testimony, that does not mean such notes exist. (On the other hand, for all we know there may have been a dictaphone recording, which I understand is typical procedure.) Even if all you get is a clear statement from Humes that there never were any other notes, that would be worthwhile. On the weight of 399: I am very skeptical of proving anything when the various weighings of small and large fragments, including estimates, may easily be imprecise.

The pages from the internal files (your memo of 10/9) are quite interesting. Do you know if these are the PC-3 and PC-4 files, as described in the classification manual? This is the kind of material where it might be productive for you or someone with time at the Archives to make up a microfilm order for use out here, where we have the time to study it in detail. I wouldn't want to order any such large file myself, because it might be mostly junk or CD's which we already have. If we knew that a particular file was fairly interesting and not too long, we could then order the whole thing.

Another piece or Achives work that should be done: as far as I know, nobody has gone over Oswald's papers in the FBI Exhibits (Federal Register list) in detail. The descriptions there are obviously inadequate, especially for items in Russian. There are FBI reports on some, maybe all, these items scattered through various Gemberling CD's, but I don't think they were collected in one report. I have ordered reel 2 of CD 102(u), which should cover some of these items, but it would be nice if someone who knows a little Russian could look at the exhibits in the Archives. For example: what are the contents of items 232-238, "envelopes with contents"?

Keep the copy of the AG memo on the Freedom of Information act which I sent.

Your note of 10/12: check my letter of 9/7 to you, concerning the list of withheld pages.

Goldberg memo of 11/10/64 on file declassification (your memo of 10/18): interesting that certain CE's have been changed to"eliminate or minimize" defamatory statements. I guess that explains CE 710 (missing) and CE 1536 (Civello). How many more? Incidentally, the possibly "truncated" page Simmons was checking for me is CD 1306, p. 19 (CE 1184 but listed as withheld); it is the same in the CD as in the CE.

Your 10/18 to Rhoads: the statements mentioned in SS 633 are most probably those in CE 392, which is SS 561. Suggest you cancel your request and just get the cover letter and anything in that SS which is unpublished. (I have SS 633.)

The FBI lab report of 12/5/63, noted on p. 9 of my list of withheld pages, is not withheld (it's in List A, which pp. 1-8 presumably are), illegible, and of no special interest. (I have a copy.) (Ref: your memo of 10/17 on Archives visit.)

Your 10/18 on autopsy body chart: why do you think the notations were made at different times? Also, I think the weighing of the internal organs is routinely done during the autopsy.

Gary: got your letter from Dallas, and have written Mary Ferrell. On directories of military personnel: Jim S. is the local expert, but I believe each service publishes lists of active and reserve personnel (maybe only officers). I don't recall the titles; if your documents department doesn't have these, ROTC offices might. For State Dept. people, there is a "Foreign Service List," but I know of nothing for other Federal agencies. I believe that Polk's City Directory generally lists occupation. Jim S. uses the city directories quite extensively; some now include criss-cross phone listings.

Enclosed: HW only - names indexed to Ferrie and nearby pages in CD 75; CD 38, p. 9 (reference to Thornley; GRS has on film); CD 1245, p. 274-6, on Mexican buses, as requested.

Copies to GRS also: notes on the (missing?) Bates typescript of Oswald's writings on Russia. Since Oswald saved everything, it would be odd if the work she did was not among his possessions. Maybe the CIA kept both copies? (Addendum: Virginia Valle typed "about four or five pages" about Russia in 1962, probably summer, for someone not definitely identified as LHO; CD 735, p. 400.)

Also to GRS also: the Davison CD's (5 pp.) and some notes. This may be really hot stuff. Further analysis of CD 409, p. 3 invited. Unless we know someone in Atlanta, or would like to check out the Atlanta papers, I don't think there is much more we can do on this. David Wise should be interested, and if you could talk to him (or arrange for me to send him the material) he might be willing and able to pursue the matter.

Goodies from JNS: (1) Courtney told Revilo P. Backwards that LHO tried to get work on Courtney's paper. Possibly true? (15H720-1) (2) prisoner at Parkland? (17H435)

May Don Olson read PM III? He is very good on such topics.

The JD finally sent me the Quigley 544 Camp pamphlet (over John Mitchell's signature, no less!). I am sending the entire file (51 pp.) to you both, Bud, and a few others (by third class mail). Make of it what you will.

From the Archives (ask for what you want): nothing on J. Walton Moore. Perry reply (2 pp.) to Shirley Martin (3 pp.) He was pretty unfriendly. CD 1349 is DeBrueys on Pena, 14 pp. (2 p. synopsis.) Apparently based on report that Pena was about to go to Moscow. Not owerwhelmingly interesting in itself, but might be part of FBI harrassment of Pena. (Date is 7/17/64) We are accumulating lots of synopses to the smaller CD's; soon I hope to have a revised on-hand list.

Noted: Brener book on JG being serialized in the T-P. Worth getting?

A long time ago you asked me to remind you of the apparent use of the same typewriter for the "minutes" of the last Commission meeting and the cover note of 11/5/64, signed by Rankin. I got prints made from my Exec. Sess. microfilm (not the best available copy, of course), and the typewriter peculiarities sure look the same.

cc: GRS

Sincerely,

Paul

Names indexed to FERRIE pages in CD 75. Certain other names have been added which are indexed among or adjacent to FERRIE pages and which also have indexed to them names given on Ferrie pages. Such additional references are indicated by asterisk.

Ampolsk, Brian 222*
Beauboeuf, Alvin 226-7, 288-90, 292, 296, 302, 307, 308*
Beauboeuf, Evelyn 308*
Beauboeuf, Herman 308*
Beauboeuf, Ronald 308*
Blackmon, Andrew 303
Boesch, George 295
"Buster" 227
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Clemments, Roy 295
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Compton, Thomas 292, 342*
Davis, W. Hardy 216, 219, 291*
Duplantis, Wilson A., Jr. 342*
Ehrlicker, James W. 323
Estav, Robert 283
Estave, Robert 313
Esteve, Harry A., Jr. 342*
Ferrie, Burdette C. (deceased) 285
Fox, Lawrence 303
Francovich, Regina 296
Gifford, Alex 298, 299
Gill, G. Gray 213, 216-17, 219, 287-88, 290, 291*, 293, 302-03, 307, 310
Gonzales, Gloria 308*
Graham, Charles 287
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Guidry, Leon 295, 590
Hackenjos, Carl (ph.) 589
Harden, Wm. D., Jr. 342*
Hardy, Davis 217
Henderson, Harold N. 312*
Hidell, A.J. 226
Hidell, Alex James 226
Hidell, Robert 226
Hinton (F.N.U.) 286
Howard, James (deceased) 285
Irian, John 296
(L.N.U.) Jack 298
Johnson, Marion James 290
Kohlman, Herman 217-18, 300-01, 310
Langlois, Anna 284
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Lewallen, James R. 214, 296
Lisman, Joe 225
Magyar, David Pearce 589
Marcello, Carlos 220*, 287
Maria, Christopher 293
Martens, Layton 220*, 228, 291*, 302, 304
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McCoy, Roy 212
McKibben, Tommy 295
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Mitchell, Don 298-99
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Morrell, Bob 286
Paradis, Jerry C. 285
Piazza, George 589
Rabel 295
Radelat, Bobby 295
Radelet, Robert 341
Reed, Bill 219
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Rice, Mr. 299
Roby, Richard E. 309
Rolland, Chuck 288-89
Rubenstein, Jack 296
Ruby, Jack 222*
Scroggs 292
Seeling, Melvin 303
Shearrer, Carl 589
Smith, Bennie 284
Stanley, Carl J. 293
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Suggs 292
Thompson, Joseph 342*
Toole, Harold 323
Trosclair, Maj. Presley 218, 310
Verrett, David 314*
Voebel, Edward 283-84, 313, 341
Vorrhies, Howard 314*
Wilkerson, Catherine 293
Young (F.N.U.), Capt. 225

NOTE: Similarity Davis, W. Hardy to Hardy, Davis- possibly also Wm. D. Harden Jr. David Verrett to David Ferrie. Suggs and Scroggs aliases used by Martin. ~~Alex Gifford, Jack probably.~~